



4TH DISTRICT COUNTY SUPERVISOR

**MARINA DIMITRIJEVIC**  
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MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## Winter 2019 Newsletter

*Proudly Representing Milwaukee's Near South Side And Bay View Neighborhoods*



*Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic and her family at Humboldt Park: Marina, her son Rafael, her daughter Zoe, and husband Eduardo Jaime.*



Marina's first newsletter was published in 2004 and included updates on her first piece of legislation to protect the South Shore and all county lakefront with the same rigorous environmental and public standards that had long been applied to maintaining our lakefront downtown and our northern suburbs.

If you would like to receive periodic updates on County news and events in the community, please sign up for my e-newsletter at:

**[www.milwaukee.gov/dimitrijevic](http://www.milwaukee.gov/dimitrijevic)**

### Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for electing me to serve our neighborhood since 2004. It has been an absolute honor to represent the neighborhood where I grew up and went to school. Over the past 15 years of serving you on the County Board, my family has grown and my son now attends our neighborhood public school, just like I did.

One of the projects I am most proud of is our work to revitalize South Shore Park. From when I was first elected to now, our park has seen a great renaissance: enhanced shoreline protection, a new bike path, an environmentally friendly parking lot, and one of the most successful beer gardens in the county. This fall we announced plans to improve the northern storage lot and double the size of the beer garden!

My final newsletter to you also includes some of my recent work to strengthen families in Milwaukee by supporting pregnant mothers, reducing harmful pesticides in our parks, and doing what I love most about this elected position: being present in our community!

Sincerely,

*Marina D.*

**Marina Dimitrijevic**  
**Milwaukee County Supervisor**  
**District 4**

*Marina discusses the importance of providing healthcare for everyone, especially our most vulnerable residents.*



**What Do You Think? Share your thoughts with me.**

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# A Strong County Starts With Strong Families

## Marina Forges City-County Partnership to Improve Healthcare for Moms, Babies



*Mayor Barrett signs city-county legislation to establish a program funding birth doulas for pregnant women in need of support and health advocacy. Supporters include doulas like Vanessa Johnson, Health Department Commissioner Jeanette Kowalik, Alderwoman Milele Coggins and co-sponsor Alderman Khalif Rainey.*

This was an exciting year for women's health in Milwaukee. In late May, Supervisor Dimitrijevic asked the County Board to vote for her resolution to fund a city-county pilot program to improve maternal and child health outcomes. Governor Evers included \$618,700 to fund doula training and services in his 2019-21 budget. Congresswoman Gwen Moore unveiled her Mamas First Act, which would provide Medicaid funding for doula and midwife care to give every woman the best care available, and every child the best start possible.

The County Board voted unanimously to support Supervisor Dimitrijevic's proposal to allocate \$52,000 for birth doulas to improve infant and maternal health in the 53206 ZIP code. Milwaukee's Common Council voted to approve the partnership as well. The partnership marks a significant step towards improving maternal health and addressing racial disparities with public funding for women's reproductive health care.

*"We should be proud that we are ahead of the curve when it comes to supporting women's health, and reproductive health in particular. Everyone deserves access to quality, affordable health care, and this program funds birth support for mothers in our city who need it most," said Dimitrijevic.*

As a mother of two children age three and under, Marina brings her own experiences to her policy making. She authored the legislation that made Milwaukee County more breastfeeding friendly and you can now find breastfeeding pods at the airport and zoo thanks to her leadership.



*Marina and the County Board celebrate with doulas and advocates upon the passage of her County Board resolution to provide doulas to pregnant women in Milwaukee.*

## Marina's Pilot Program to Reduce Evictions Is Working!

A year ago, the county implemented Supervisor Dimitrijevic's eviction prevention plan, by authorizing (16 - 0) the Housing Division to set aside \$200,000 to launch the project. The results are in! In the program's first year, 49 evictions were prevented.

"When I launched the eviction prevention pilot, I was excited to see what impact we could make. I am elated that so many county residents were able to avoid eviction through our program. 49 fewer families dealing with evictions and impending homelessness is a win-win for taxpayers and our community," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic.

Marina's Housing Opportunities and Minimizing Evictions for Stabilization (HOMES) legislation employs a three part strategy of prevention, mitigation, and legal representation: a full-time staff person dedicated to working with landlords and tenants to prevent eviction, a Housing Stabilization Fund to help tenants bridge the financial gap that often leads to eviction proceedings, and sufficient resources to double the capacity of the Eviction Defense Project, a legal services clinic operated by Legal Action, Inc. at the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

"In Milwaukee County we are moving beyond talk and into real action to confront the eviction crisis head on. We are dedicating new resources to prevent evictions, keep our residents in safe housing when threatened with eviction, and double the capacity for legal defense when it is needed. Our bold, comprehensive approach will help stop the traumatic cycle that starts with an eviction," said Dimitrijevic.

## Keeping Our Playgrounds and Parks Safe



This spring Marina co-authored a resolution with Supervisors Steven Shea and Jason Haas prompting the Parks Department to establish a clear, easy to understand pesticide use plan that lays out exactly what, if any, chemicals are being applied in our public parks and posts that information online.

*"Many concerned mothers and neighbors living near county parks have contacted my office about the use of pesticides, like Monsanto's Roundup. As a mother of young children, I share these concerns, especially since courts have ruled that these pesticides are causing health problems. It's time for Milwaukee County to have a clear, easy to understand policy that demonstrates our commitment to safe parks for everyone," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic.*

Marina was pleased to help ensure that the Parks Department has a comprehensive, publicly available policy on minimizing pesticide use in our parks. The County Board unanimously backed the resolution, and the new policy was released in September. Thank you to all who helped achieve this policy change. It's critical for the public to have the information they need to make informed choices about where they relax, shop, eat, and play with their families and pets.



# Marina's Decade of Supporting South Shore Park

## The Renaissance of South Shore Park Is for All to Enjoy

Beginning in 2004 with her very first piece of legislation that expanded the Lakefront Development Advisory Commission to include Milwaukee County's entire lakefront, Supervisor Dimitrijevic has energetically led on dozens of capital improvements and helped deliver county resources to revitalize South Shore Park and other parks in the district. See a timeline of major improvements of this regional treasure on this page.

In recent months she has strongly advocated for the expansion of South Shore Terrace, including the long overdue remodeling of the north side of the South Shore Pavilion, which is currently used for storage. Supervisor Dimitrijevic recently joined Parks Director Guy Smith to announce that the proposed 2020 Milwaukee County budget includes the funding she requested for the planning and design of an expanded South Shore Terrace beer garden.

Marina successfully encouraged the County Executive to include at least \$50,000 in his proposed 2020 budget for planning and design work. The project will address the last piece of South Shore Park that has not been improved during Dimitrijevic's tenure, and its renewal will complete what has been a decade of renaissance in the South Shore.

*"When I look back at my years of service to our community on the County Board, I am most proud of our work improving South Shore Park for all to enjoy. Future generations will benefit from the return on our investments: cleaner water, a safe beach, a regional bike trail, public art, and a public beer garden make this park one of the best we have," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic.*



1. Ribbon cutting for the South Shore Terrace beer garden opening. 2. South end of the South Shore Pavilion construction complete! 3. Marina presents the South Shore Park and beach restoration master plan. 4. Ribbon cutting for South Shore Beach/parking lot improvements project. 5. Marina pours from newly installed tap lines at the annual opening of South Shore Terrace. 6. Marina talks to Parks Director Guy Smith about her plans to renovate the decaying north end of South Shore Pavilion and expand the beer garden.

- 2004 Introduced legislation that expands Lakefront Development Advisory Commission to include South Shore Park and all beaches in the county
- 2005 Shoreline protection
- 2005 Bike trail replacement
- 2005 Concrete seat wall
- 2006 Richard Hansen public sculpture installed, series of five sculptures called *Edge Elements*
- 2006-7 Breakwater rebuild
- 2015 South Shore Terrace improvements, beer garden opens
- 2013-17 South Shore parking lot reconstruction, bioswales, water quality improvements
- 2016-17 South Shore Beach studies developed
- 2018 Beach improvement plan unveiled
- 2018 2018 South Shore Terrace Revenue: \$765,842
- 2019 South Shore Pavilion north yard beer garden improvement concept plan unveiled

## Marina in the Community



*Marina was the featured speaker at the Time of the Month Club luncheon. She spoke about her legislation at the county to provide free menstrual products in some county buildings in order to achieve menstrual equity.*



*Jane Taugher, President of the Bay View Historical Society, accepts a citation from Milwaukee County that Marina sponsored to recognize the 40th anniversary of the BVHS. Marina is a proud member of the Bay View Historical Society.*



*Baby Zoe loved attending Chill on the Hill this summer in Humboldt Park and had fun with our friend County Supervisor Jason Haas.*



*The Bay View Community Center is a gem in our neighborhood. Under new leadership, there are so many exciting classes and events to participate in.*



*Marina joined Sister Stella DeVenuta at the Wine & Vine event to support the great social justice work of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Assisi.*



*Marina is a proud graduate of Milwaukee Public Schools and enjoyed welcoming students back to her alma mater Bay View High School to start the academic year off strong. Go Redcats!*



*Team Marina loves walking in the Humboldt Park 4th of July parade each summer. Friends and family join together to throw candy to neighbors.*